

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00362 221338Z

71

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /133 W
----- 124281

R 221045Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2642

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0362

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI AO

SUBJECT: OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

REF: LUANDA 341

1. DESPITE STATEMENTS BY CINC AND STORIES LOCAL PRESS (REFTEL), WE RELIABLY INFORMED THAT PORTUGUESE FORCES ARE NOT ADOPTING TOTALLY PASSIVE ROLE. HIGH COMMAND SOURCE (ALSO MEMBER OF MFA) IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT QUESTION SAYS ARMY WILL CONTINUE TO ATTACK INFILTRATING GROUPS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR IMMEDIATE THREAT. THERE IS ONE FNLA GROUP NOW APPROACHING DEMBOS REGION THAT WAS ATTACKED ABOUT 10 DAYS AGO WHICH ARMY HOPES TO LOCATE AND DESTROY BEFORE IT REACHES RELATIVE SAFETY OF ITS MOUNTAINOUS BASE AREA.

2. COMMENT: THIS FURTHER EXAMPLE OF PRAGMATIC CONSIDERATIONS CLASHING WITH AND OVERCOMING MPA IDEALISM. ARMY WILLING ADOPT LIVE AND LET LIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS GUERRILLA FORCES INSIDE ANGOLA, BUT WILL TRY TO KEEP THEM FROM BUILDING UP STRENGTH.
BRIGGS

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